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CLAIMED APPARATUS

A mixt. of at least three components is fed into the side of a generally central area of a distillative fractionation column with multiple stages and from whose head and sump respectively, two of the components can be recovered in pare form.

Distillative fractionation column – provides intermediate components from centre zone contg. partition preventing cross-mixing of media

Other components with an intermediate b.pt. and largely free of the head an sump components are extracted from a length of the central area ajacent the feed inlet and divided

by vertical partitioning to prevent interal cross-mixing between liq. and/or vapour components.

The partitioning extends through sufficient column stages, established by calculation or experiment, to ensure the intermediate fractions are obtd. with the required purity.

ADVANTAGE

Pure intermediate prods. are obtd. without requiring auxiliary columns or increased heat supply.

PREFERRED

The partitioning may be continuous for columns filled with packing, individual lengths between perforated stage floors, or a concentric inner tube. (15pp1430RfIDwgNon/4)

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